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FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS AND IRRIGATION WATER FORECASTS

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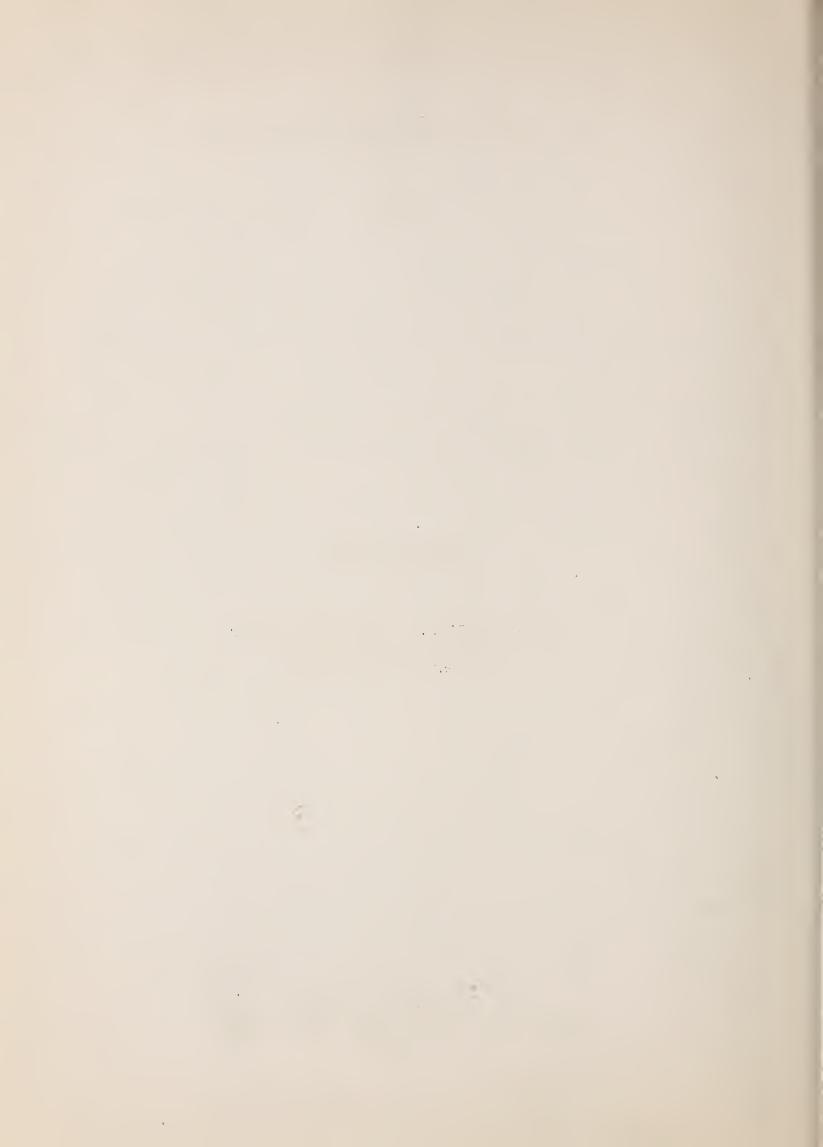
NEVADA

Report Prepared

by

Clyde Houston, Irrigation Engineer
Division of Irrigation
Soil Conservation Service

Division of Irrigation
Soil Conservation Service
Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station
Reno, Nevada



INDEX TO SNOW COURSES

NUMBE	RS NAME	ELEVATION	NUMBERS	NAME	ELEVATI ON	NUMBERS	NAME	ELEVATION
	SNAKE RIVER		1	TRUCKEE BASIN			CARSCN BASIN	
2. 4. 5.	Bear Creek	. 6,800 . 7,100 . 6,600	2. (Cal.) 3. (Cal.) 4. (Cal.) 5. (Cal.) 6. (Cal.) 7. (Cal.)	Granite Peak Independence Webber Peak Donner Summi Ward Creek Webber Lake Sage Hen Cre Tahoe City	Lake 8,450 8,000 t 6,900 7,000 ek 6,500	2.(Cal.) 3.(Cal.) NOR	Carson Fass Foison Flat Flue Lakes THERN GREAT BAS Mountain ster Peak	7,900 £,000 SIN 6,720
2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.	Lower Buckskin	. 7,200 . 6,700 . 7,800 . 6,600 . 6,700 . 6,700 . 6,800	9.(Cal.) 10.(Cal.) 11.(Cal.) 12.(Cal.) 13.(Cal.) 14.(Cal.) 15.(Cal.)	Truckee #2 . Independence Boca #2 Furnace Flat Fordyce Lake Soda Springs Independence Mt. Rose Truckee Rang	6,400 Creek 6,300 5,900 6,600 6,500 6,750 Camp. 7,000 9,000	1.(Cal.) 2.(Cal.) 3.(Cal.) 4.(Cal.) 5.(Cal.) 6.(Cal.) 7.(Cal.)	WALKER BASIN Center Mountai Sonora Pass Buckeye Forks. Virginia Lakes Willow Flat Buckeye Roughs Leavitt Meadow Tioga Pass	8,600 8,500 9,500 8,250 7,900 75.7,200
11.	Upper Jack Creek • Tremewan Ranch • • Taylor Canyon • • UPPER HUMBOLDT RI	• 5,700 • 6,200	19.	Donner Lake. Big Meadows. Little Valle	5,950 8,800 y 6,300	2.(Cal.)	TAHOE BASIN Leke Lucille . Rubicon #1	8,100
2. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.	Bear Creek	. 6,800 . 7,100 . 6,600 . 6,700 . 6,700 . 6,800 . 6,800 . 7,250 . 5,700	1. Rair 2. Kyle 3. Lee 4. Lee 5. Rair 6. Mics 7. Dud 8. Math	NER COLORADO R Canyon Canyon #1 Canyon #2 Notch Springs New Canyon Canyon EASTERN NEVAD	7,800 8,200 8,300 9,000 8,100 6,000 6,000 6,000	4.(Cal.) 5.(Cal.) 7.(Cal.) 8.(Cal.) 9.(Cal.) 10.(Cal.) 11.(Cal.)	Hagans Meadow Freel Bench Ward Creek Upper Truckee Tahoe City Rubicon #2 Rubicon #3 Richardsons #2 Echo Summit Marlette Lake Daggetts Fass Glenbrock #2 Mt. Rose	7,300 7,000 6,400 6,250 7,500 6,700 6,500 7,500 8,000 7,350 6,900
15 · 16 · 17 · 18 · 19 · 20 · 21 · 22 · 23 · 24 · 25 ·	Upper Trout Creek. Dorsey Basin Ryan Ranch	 8,100 5,800 6,500 7,100 7,300 7,700 8,000 8,700 8,000 6,600 7,400 	2. Hage 3. Murr 4. Bake 5. Bake 6. Bake 7. Berr 8. Bird	e Creek	7,000 8,500 7,250 7,950 8,950 9,250 9,100 7,500	1. 2. 3.(Cal.) 4.(Cal.) 5.(Cal.) 6.(Cal.) 7.(Cal.)	Clark Canyon. Trough Springs McAfee Forks. Roberts Ranch Goat Springs. Sage Hen Flats Ranger Statior White Mountain	. 9,000 s 8,500 7,500 8,300 10,300 10,500 9,500
20 •	Corral Canyon	8,500	2. Uppe 3. Mart 4. Gran 5. Lame 6. Mids 7. Big 8. Big 9. Uppe 10. Lowe	er Buckskin . er Buckskin . tin Creek . nite Peak . ance Creek . Creek Camp Gr Creek Mine . er Big Creek. er Corral .	7,200 6,700 7,800 6,600 7,200 ound 6,000 7,000 8,000 7,500			

March 1, 1950 NEVADA

RELIMINARY WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

* March 1, 1950, snow surveys show that snow stored water ranges from one half normal in Southern Nevada to almost normal along the Humboldt and better than normal on the East central Sierra. As of this date, snow runoff prospects should vary from poor in the South to fair along the Humboldt and good in the East central Sierra.

Snake River in Nevada

Water stored in snow on the headwaters of Bruneau River and Salmon Falls Creek is almost average for this date, while that on the Upper Owyhee is only about 70 percent of average. Heavy January snow storms contributed most of the existing snow pack as February snowfall was below normal. A warm February has settled the snow pack to the extent that it is approaching runoff densities.

Upper Humboldt River

Practically all of the low elevation snow has melted at this time. This snow melt has primed the soil and contributed to early streamflow. Snow stored water on the northern feeders is 80 percent of average, while the southern feeders to the Upper Humboldt contain about 90 percent of average snow water for this date. U. S. Geological Survey reports early peaking of some tributary streams.

Lower Humboldt River

The watershed above Paradise Valley contains about 80 percent of average snow pack. Low snow has melted from this area contributing early streamflow to the main stream system. Reese River snow courses show almost a complete absence of snow cover in this area, as March 1 snow surveys are only about 20 percent of average. Rye Patch Reservoir stored about 25 percent of capacity.

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Eastern Nevada

Snow water above Ruby Valley is almost average while the watersheds above Steptoe Valley contain less than normal snow. Snow water on the watershed above the City of Ely is below normal while that on Baker and Lehman Creeks is about 70 percent.

Lower Colorado River in Nevada

The Spring Mountains near Las Vegas contained about 60 percent of average. This is about the lightest snow cover measured on this date since snow surveys were started in this area ten years ago. Two new courses on Meadow Valley Wash near Caliente, Nevada, contain a very small snow cover compared with last years potential flood cover. Lake Mead stored 18,268,000 acre feet, or about 90 percent of the 1939-1948 average. The new reservoir behind Davis Dam started storing water and on March 1 contained 220,000 acre feet.

Eastcentral Sierra Nevada

In spite of the apparently mild February, snow stored water in the Eastcentral Sierra Nevada continues above average for this date. Snow densities are high for this time of year denoting an early runoff should snowfall during April drop below normal. Truckee Basin contains about 120 percent of average with Tahoe about 115 percent. Lake Tahoe stored 182,000 acre feet which is about the same as last year at this time. Carson Basin contained approximately 120 percent of average snow cover and Lake Lahontan above Fallon stored 164,000 acre feet or slightly less than last year. Topaz and Bridgeport reservoirs on the Walker River contained 36,000 acre feet, which is almost the same as last year but only about 45 percent of average.

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STATUS OF RESERVOIR STORAGE, MARCH 1, 1950

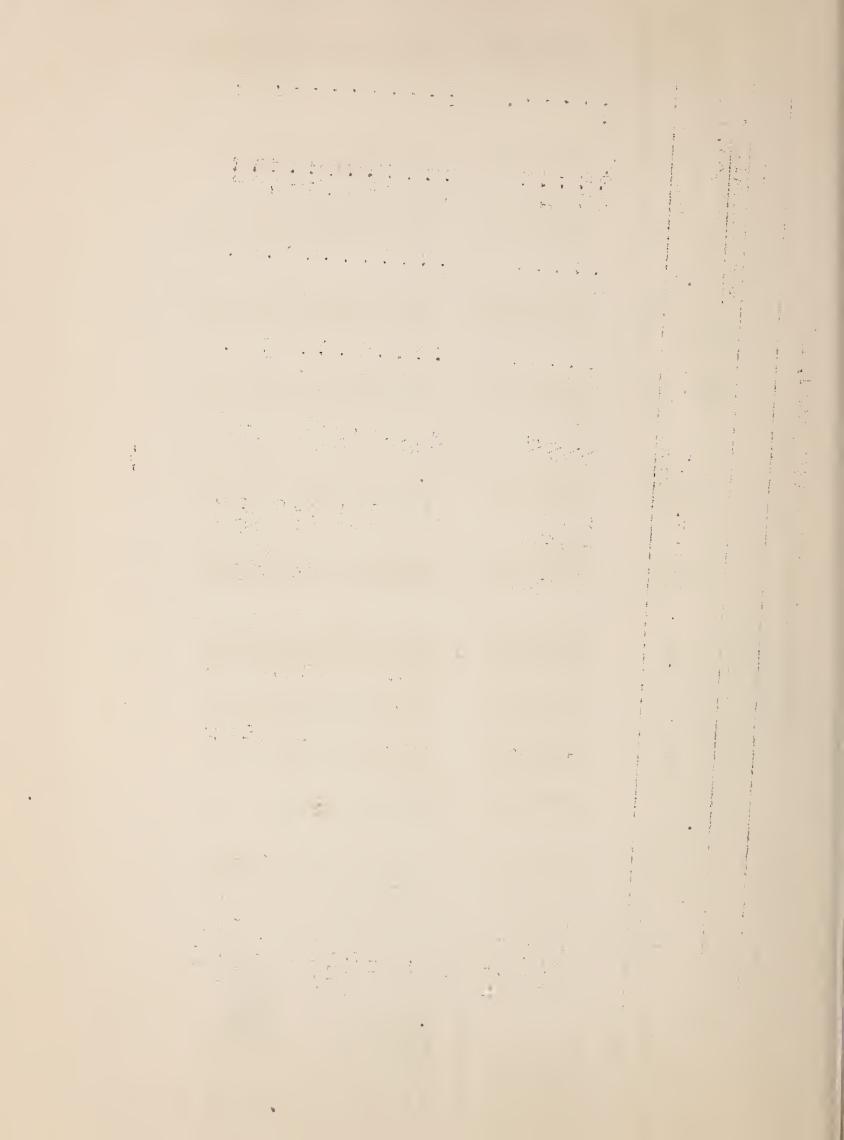
BASIN AND STREAM	RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY (Thous. A.F.)	7 THOUS.	ACRE FE	ET USAB 1948	LE STORAC	HE ABOUT MAR.: 10-yr. avg. 1939 - 1948
Owyhee	Wildhorse	33	14	5	5	14	12
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	178	43	56	114	179	160°
Tahoe	Tahoe	750	182	177	264	508	479
Carson	Lahontan	286	164	175	179	220	228
West Walker	Topaz	59	19	19	24	46	43
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	17	13	21	41	36
Color ado	Davis	1,810	220		New Re	servoir	
Colorado	Me ad	27,217	18,268	18,197	19,148	16,692	19,744

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		LOCATION	TON						SNOW COVER MEASUREGENTS	R MEASURE	CENTS	
DRAINAGE BASIN and SHOW COURSE	Number	Sec	Twp. Rge.	1	Elev.	Date of Survey	Snow . Depth (inches)	Water 1950	Content(inch Same Approx. 1949	inches) brox. Date 1948	Past Years of Record	Av. Water Content (Inches)
SNAKE RIVER Bear Creek Fox Creek 76 Creek Gold Creek Big Bend	・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・	33 6 33	46N 46N 46N 45N 45N	グス38 20 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50	7800 6800 7100 6600 6700	2/28 2/28 3/4 3/1	149.5 23.6 32.6 16.4	17.8 11.3 5.11. 5.4;	23 13.0 10.7 10.5	14.3 8.0 9.0 4.9	18 18 18 21	15.9 8.7 11.5 6.7
OMYHEE RIVER											,	
Lower Buckskin Upper Buckskin Wartin Creek Granite Peak Gold Creek Big Bend Fry Canyon Rodeo Flat Lower Jack Creek Upper Jack Creek Tremewan Ranch Taylor Ranch	12 62 62 62 62 62 62 62 62 62 62 62 62 62	3700133753753	75 N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	232 232 232 232 232 232 232 232 232 232	6700 7200 6700 6700 6700 6700 6700 6700	266664469999999999999999999999999999999	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2	00000000000000000000000000000000000000	00 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		7847566788886666666666666666666666666666	10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0



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								Water	Content (inches	ches)	Past	Record
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SNOW COURSE	Mailiber	ם מכי	TWP. TRG.		• ^ > -	Survey	(inches)	1950	1949	1948	Record	(inches)
TOTAL HINEROLD												
Bear Creek	H	31	146W	58正	7800	2/28	49.5	17.8	23.0	14.3	18	15.9
Fox Creek	2	33	146N	58压	9089	2/28	23.6	8,1	13.5	တ္	18	8.7
76 Creek	4	9	777N	58E	7100	3/14	32.6	11.3	16.7	0.6	#	11.5
Gold Creek	۲V	31	15N	56E	0099	3/1	16.4	7.5	10.5	4.9	18	2.9
Big Bend	9	30	15N	56日	6700	3/1	25.5	8.4	14.3	6.3	27	0.6
Fry Canyon	2	31	43N	SH 전 전 전 전 전 전 전 전 전 전 전 ((((((((0029	2/26	20.0	7.0	15.2	5.0	16	9.3
Rodeo Flat	ω	36	43N	53正	6800	2/26	19.7	7.1	17.2	6.2	16	10.1
Lower Jack Creek	6	18	L2N	53匹	9089	2/28	0	0	6.47	2.8	22	4.9
Upper Jack Creek	10	6	42N	53压	7250	2/28	20.3	6.8	13.1	7.3	77	10.0
Tremewan Ranch	11	0	39N	55百	5700	3/1	0	0	0°9	0	18	2.8
Tay.lor Canyon	12	35	39N	53正。	6200	2/28	9,9	2.3	8 8	1.3	15	0°9
Lower Trout Creek	13	28	37N	61E	0069	3/1	e.3	7,9	5.0	>	ey 13	5.9
Upper Trout Creek	77	†	36N	61E	8500	3/1	53.9	20.5	23.2	16.5	17	19.8
Dorsey Basin	15	28	35N	三09	8100	3/1	30,4	10/	12.9	9.3	18	10.9
Ryan Ranch	16	~	34N	59E	5800	2/28	0	0	4.9	0	18	2.2
Dry Creek	17	N	34N	60E	9059	2/28	7.7	2°2	7.6	8°T.	16	గ్త జా
	18	15	32N	58回	2100	2/28	27.5	ر. ر.	13,2	2.9	24	9 ° 6
	19	17	32N	58E	7300	2/28	27.3	9.7	12.7	8.4	23	9.5
Lamoille #3	20	24	32N	58E	7700	3/1	33.1	11.6	17.2	10.6	75	12.5
	21	19	32N	59日	8000	3/1	47.2	17.7	22.3	13.9	0	17.2
Lamoille #5	22	31	32N	59正	8700	2/28	74.0	29.4	27.0	17.5	1.5	23.3
\Box	23	23	29 N	57E	8000	3/3	29.4	12,1	No Survey	2,0	14	12.9
Pass	23	6	28N	57E	0099	3/1	0	0	7.4	J. 7.	21	び、
Harrison Pass #2	25	16	28N	57E	7400	3/1	ф°9	2,5	No Survey	4.4	19	5.7
Corral Canyon	56	27	28N	57E	8500	3/2	44.4	16.9		13.1	77	14.3
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		LOCATION	TON						SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS	MEASUREN	ENTS	
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LOVER HUNBOLDT												
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Granite Peak Lamance Creek Midas	クバヤ	22 13 18			7800 6600 7200	~~~ ~~~~	25.0 18.8 9.6	2 2 2 3 3 4 5 5 5 6 7 5	7.6 12.1 9.2	7.0 9.0 0.0	18 10 10	9.th
Big Creek Camp Ground Big Creek Mine Upper Big Creek Lower Corral Upper Corral	7 8 9 10 11	10 23 12 20	17N 17N 17N 111N 111	43E 43E 40E 41E	6000 7000 8000 7500 8500	3/1 3/1 3/1 2/28 2/28	2°1 7°6 0	0 0 0 0 0	5.3 7.9 No Survey	3.0	88777	125 232 232 232 232 232 232 232 232 232 2
EASTERN NEVADA												
Cave Creek Hager Canyon Murray Summit Baker #1 Baker #2 Baker #3 Berry Creek Bird Creek Robinson Summit Kimberly	このの日とのどれをひて	183 # 8 K 3 B K # K	27N 16N 13N 13N 17N 17N 16N 16N	57E 57E 62E 69E 65E 65E 61E 62E	7500 8500 7250 7250 8950 9250 7500 7600	22/28 14/28 14/28 14/28 14/28 14/28	31.3 38.9 38.8 38.3 37.0 11.2	13.0 17.0 17.0 17.0 17.0 17.0 17.0 17.0 17	25 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27	7.3 7.6 1.5 11.1 13.4 8.3 3.5 New Course	.se 227.888.3988	15. 17. 17. 17. 17. 17. 17. 17. 17. 17. 17

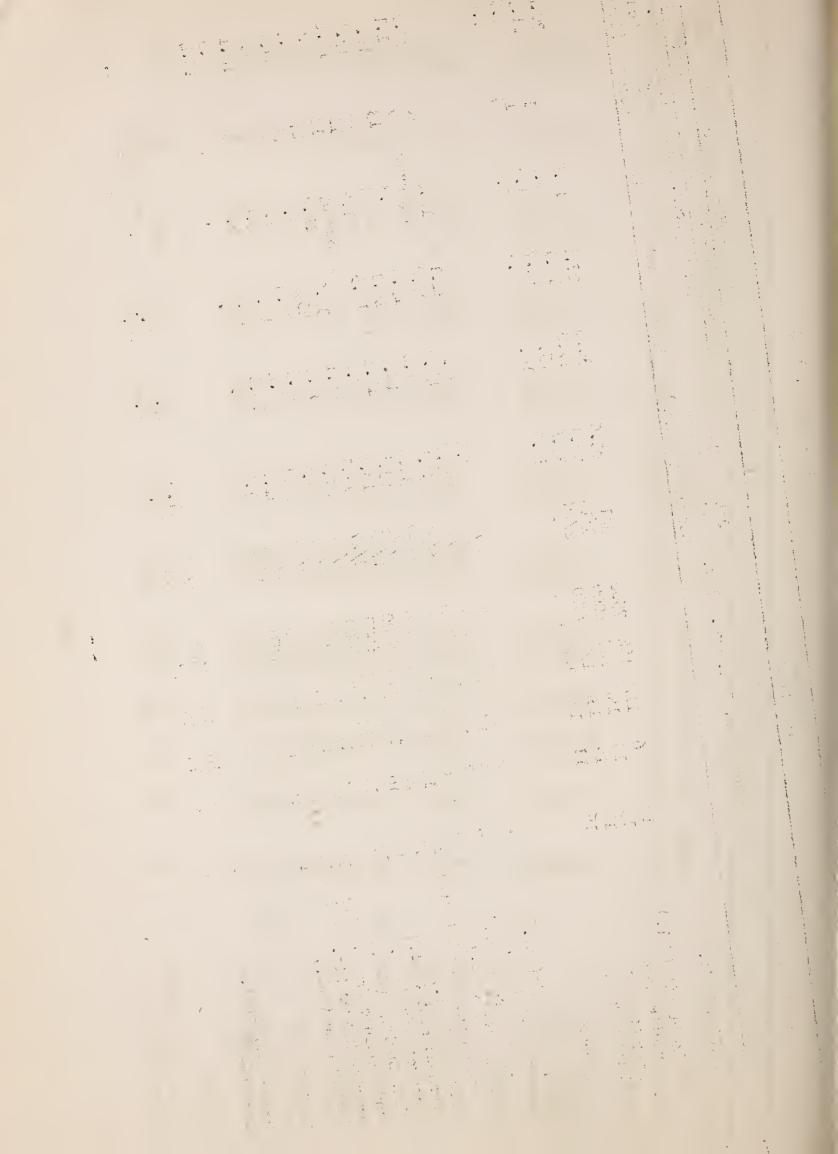
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	Number	Sec.	Twp. Rge.	Rge.	Elev.	Jo	Depth				of	Content
SNOW COURSE)		Survey	(inches)	1950	1949	1948	Record	(inches)
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TAHOE (Con't.)												
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Echo Summit (Cal.)	12	9 !	NIT	10E	005/	3/1	α ζ. ν. γ.	20.0	0./7.	ر• د د• د	0 0	30° L
	۲. ا	£ 7	15N	18E	8000	3/1	52°T	0,1	1.5	ລຸ	2 6	ZT-7
Daggetts Pass	77	13	131	19五	7350	2/25	35.6	ال ال ال	14.7	7°7	—	12°5
Glenbrook #2	15	13	14N	1 8压	0059	3/3	39.3	14.5	12.9	y•£	ئ	77.7
TRUCKEE												
Donner Summit(Cal.)	4	22	17N	14年	00.69	2/28	83.5	39.9	31,1	12.8	56	33.3
Ward Creek (Cal.)	N	21	15N	16到	7000	2/25	105.7	144.8	37.8	No Survey		41.1
Sage Hen Creek(Cal.)	7	7	18N	16E	6500	2/24	52.4	21.0	15.6	2.3	13	16.2
Tahoe City (Cal.)	ထ	9	15N	17国	6250	2,25	33.0	15.1	18.1	0	18	13.3
Independence Creek (Cal.)	10	17	19M	1万	6300	2/24	43.4	17.1	12.5	1.2	10	12.1
(Cal.)	コ	28	18N	17E	5900	2/26	18.8	8.2	No	Survey	12	8.0
<u> </u>	12	10	17N	13臣	0099	2/27	93.3	44.1	39.2	14.2	27	38.1
	13	37	18N	13压	6500	2/27	87.2	39.3	0°07	80	25	33.9
(Cal.)	74	23	17N	14周	6750	2/28	82.2	38.3	26,3	7.1	20	29.5
\circ	15	34	19N	15年	2000	2/25	61.1	25.4	18.3	4.9	8	18.1
~) 17	01	17N	16	0009	2/26	31.2	13.6	15.2	2.6	八	ر. بر.
Donner Lake (Cal.)	1 8	77	17N	15年	5950	2/25	47.4	20.5	22.0	3°8	9	15.4
, CO CC	•				**							
C AROO IN												
Carson Pass (Cal.) Clear Creek	トコ	22	NOT	18E	8600	2/26	81.8	37.4	24.8	30.9	9 20 Mone Consess	30.6
	•	1		1			74.4	70.77	0	NUM	es.mon	

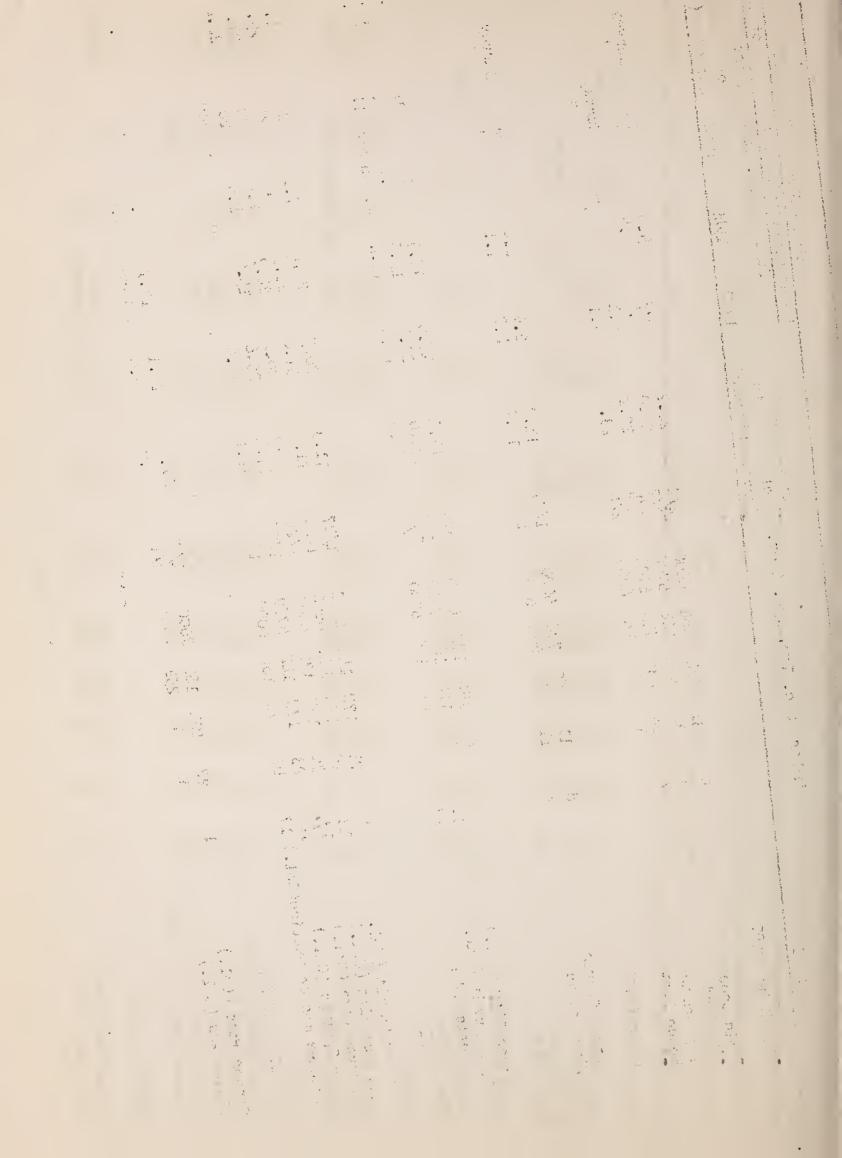


The following table gives results of February 1 snow surveys which have not been published.

THE DAMES OF THE PARTY OF THE P

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		LOCA	LOCATION						SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS	MEASURE		,
								Mater	Content(inches	iches)	St	Record
DRAINAGE BASIN	Number	Sec.	Twp	Twp. Rge.	Elev.	Date	Snow		Same Approx.	\$	Years	Av. Water Content
SNOW COURSE						Survey	(inches)	1950	1949	1948	Record	(inches)
UPPER HUMBOLDT												
Gold Creek Big Bend Fry Canyon Rodeo Flat	2000	4848 848	45N 45N 43N 43N	56E 56E 54E 53E	6600 6700 6700 6800	1/2 5/5 5/4 5/7	20.2 27.0 22.2 23.0	7675	8.8 4.8 No		No Survey Survey	Å
LOWER COLORADO												
Mathew Canyon Pine Canyon	ω σ ₀	HH	55 68	70E 69E	6000	1/27	11.2	2.9	6.2	No F1	Survey	As
TAHOE												
Tahoe City (Cal.) Echo Summit (Cal.) Marlette Lake	8 12 13	6 13	15N 11N 15N	17E 18E 18E	6250 7500 8000	2/t 1/30 2/1	41.1 100.0 55.8	15.6 29.3	17.7 19.5 12.4	0 7.8 No Survey	16 8 7	8.7 22.2 14.4
TRUCKEE												
Donner Summit (Cal.) Furnace Flat (Cal.) Fordyce Lake (Cal.) Soda Springs (Cal.) Truckee Ranger Station(Cal.)	4 12 13 14 14	10 10 10	17N 17N 18N 17N 17N	11E 13E 11E 16E	6900 6500 6750 6000	1/27 1/26 1/26 1/27 1/27	71.3 71.8 69.3 67.1	26.5 31.0 26.9 25.6	20.2 21.5 24.3 15.0	No 4.55	28 24 23 20 Swrvey	21.9 25.5 21.5 20.4
CARSON & WALKER												
Carson Pass (Cal.) Tioga Pass (Cal.)	4 80	30	10N	18E 25E	9900	1/26	69.6	28.1	17.7 No Survey	8°1, 9°1,	19	20.7



SNOW SURVEYORS

March 1950

C.	Arr	in	gto	n
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V. Arzuaga

R. Bell

M. Benson

1. Birdsall

M. Bishop

J. Buckhouse

B. Cater

A. Chase

J. Church

D. Collings

F. Cowgill

P. Cowgill

A. Cusick

E. Dillwith

W. Dillwith

J. Ferguson

C. Gnevo

B. Halliday

E. Hance

H. Hansen

V. Hart

R. Hermansen

H. Hoffman

A. Holfeltz

G. Horton

C. Houston

G. Jewett

R. Kuehner

R. Law

A. Lincoln

C. Martin

C. Martin, Jr.

G. Martin

R. Mendive

E. McKinnon

L. Hiller

R. Moffitt

A. Murchie

E. Murphy, Jr.

H. Murphy

E. Nord

E. Nunce

J. Parker

J. Pescio

W. Price

E. Raiford

A. Robison

R. Ross

J. Shevlin

J. Silva

A. Sweeney

L. Turner

S. Urriola

A. Vistereil

J. Watts

A. Telling

C. Toods

F. Woods

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NEVADA COOPERATIVE SMO SURVEYS Agencies Cooperating in Collecting Data Contained in this Bullstin.

FEDERAL

Soil Conservation Service Forest Service Geological Survey Fish and Wildlife Service Navy Bureau of Reclamation Weather Bureau

STATE

Nevada State Engineer
Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station
Nevada Agricultural Extension Service
California Division of Water Resources
California Cooperative Snow Surveys
Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys

MUNICIPAL

City of Ely, Nevada

PUBLIC AGENCIES

Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Washoe County Water Conservation District Walker River Irrigation District Owyhee Irrigation District

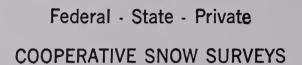
PRIVATE UTILITIES

Sier a Pacific Power Company Virginia City Water Company

FRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

Deep Springs Sumbol Kennecott Corper Corp. Union Facific Lailroad Amalgamated Sugar Company





Furnishes the basic data necessary for forecasting water supply for irrigation, domestic and municipal water supply, hydro-electric power generation, navigation, mining and industry

"WATER IS THE WEST'S GREATEST RESOURCE"